

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the Abstract in its entirety and replace with the following paragraph:

“An apparatus and continuous process for the conversion of one solid iron compound to another solid iron compound in a heterogeneous suspension wherein the suspension is formed by dispersing a solid starting iron compound in a liquid that is continuously fed through one or more agitated conversion vessels under hydrothermal conditions and converted to a solid product iron compound having different physical, chemical, or structural properties from the solid starting iron compound.”